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### IN VACATION.

**Divestiture of Jurisdiction.**—Mr. Justice Brown of the United States Supreme Court, retired, relates one of the stories that the late Justice Brewer was so fond of telling, which goes to show that eminent jurist's high regard for the law. He relates that a justice of the peace owned a farm in Kansas that borders on Missouri.

One day the justice was sitting on a fence, built directly on the State line, superintending some work his son and a farmhand were doing. The son and his companion engaged in a dispute, which ended in a fistfight. The justice of the peace, Justice Brewer would explain, watched the encounter for a few minutes, and then shouted in a loud voice:

"'Gentlemen, in the name of the law of the State of Kansas, and by virtue of my authority, I command you to desist.'

"Just then the rail broke," continued Justice Brewer, "and the justice of the peace landed in Missouri. Arising to his feet, he exclaimed:

"'Give him hell, son; I have lost my jurisdiction.'"

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**Pleading in Trespass.**—An Illinois Constable was sued in trespass for taking corn under an execution. Plaintiff alleged that with force and arms defendant "took, drove, and led away" thirty-five acres of standing corn. One doesn't know which to admire more, the force and arms of that mighty constable, or the docility of Illinois corn. Of course, it is just possible that the constable made the corn stalk, by taking it by the ear.—West Publishing Co.'s Docket.

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### BOOK REVIEWS.

All book reviews are by the editor in chief unless otherwise expressly stated.

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**The Principles of Argument**, by Edwin Bell, LL. B. Canada Law Book Company, Limited. Philadelphia. Cromarty Law Book Company. 1910.

"Orators are born, not made" is the adage, but oratory is not always argument, just as argument is not always—indeed is generally not oratory. Most people are too apt to lose sight of this fact and imagine that glittering generalities expressed in flowery terms can take the place of cogent reasoning. No one who desires to reach the minds, as well as the hearts of men, should fail to avail himself of every aid which can render him assistance in thinking logically and expressing his thoughts in such a way as to carry conviction to his hearers. Any work which can facilitate the processes of thinking which are subservient to argumentation must be of value and we have been very much pleased with the little volume whose title is given above. It has collated from a great number of authorities certain definite principles in regard to the nature of argumentative reasoning and bound them together not only in an original way but with original matter, and